The beneficiaries are allowed to purchase Ayurvedic medicines from the open market which are not available in the CGHS dispensary/units in Delhi and the amount is reimbursed to the beneficiary.

In the case of CGHS Ayurvedic units outside Delhi, most of the Ayurvedic medicines prescribed by the doctors are available in the dispensary. The medicines which are not available in the dispensary are either procured through local chemists based upon individual prescription or alternatively, the beneficiaries are authorised to purchase the Ayurvedic medicines from the market and reimbursement is made to them.

(b) By and large, the reimbursement claims of the CGHS beneficiaries are settled in about 15 days after the bills are received by the In-charge of the CGHS in the concerned city.

(c) Steps have already been initiated for appointing fresh authorised local chemists for supplying Ayurvedic medicines in CGHS Delhi.

Waiting List for operations in AIIMS

†1842. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN'

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in All India Institute of Medical Sciences patients have to wait for a long period for operation even after a decision for their operation is taken;

(b) if so, the number of such patients in the year 2000-2001 who had to wait for three months or more after the decision for their operation was taken; and

(c) the diseases from which these patients were suffering?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. However, emergency patients, Cancer patients and very sick patients get priority. Other patients requiring elective surgery are given dates and surgery at a subsequent date. The postponed operations are done within next three months. The

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

statistics regarding the postponed operations is not maintained by the Institute.

News-Item, "Adulteration Cases not reaching Courts"

1843. SHRIABANI ROY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned, "Adulteration cases not reaching courts", which appeared in the Hindustan Times, dated the 5th September, 2002;

(b) whether CBI recommended action against the Director (PFA) for compelling the staff to file chargesheets with illegal consents bearing modified facts, favouring adulterators which were pending for several months; and

(c) if so, the action taken by Government against the Director (PFA) in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (c) The information is being collected from the Government of NCT of Delhi and will be laid on the table of the House.

Amendment in Homoeopathy Central Council Act, 1973

1844. PROF. RAM DEO BHANDARY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration to amend the Homoeopathy Central Council Act, 1973 in order to include Homoeopathy Diploma as the minimum standard of education as recognized qualification for registration purposes for Pharmacists to enable them to practise; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) There is no such proposal.

(b) Does not arise.